

Minutes of the Public Works Committee
August 14, 2008

Chair David Swan called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Committee Members Present: County Board Supervisors David Swan (Chair), Walter Kolb, Peter Wolff (left at 9:14 a.m.), John Pledl, Pauline Jaske and Peter Gundrum (arrived at 8:37; left at approximately 10:00 a.m.). Absent: Supervisor Pamela Meyer.

Also Present: County Board Chief of Staff Mark Mader, Director of Public Works Rich Bolte, Assistant Campus Dean for Administrative Services Joanne Robis, Building & Grounds Supervisor Michael Riemer, Campus Dean Patrick Schmidt, Senior Civil Engineer Karen Braun, and Legislative Associate Karen Phillips.

Schmitt welcomed the Committee members to the UW-Waukesha Campus.

Approve Minutes of July 10, 2008

MOTION: Jaske moved, second by Kolb, to approve the minutes of July 10, 2008. Motion carried: 5-0.

Correspondence

- Letter to Editor on Roundabouts from Wisconsin Department of Transportation Secretary Frank Busalacchi
- Letter from Bryce Styza, Village of Chenequa President, to Jim Dwyer regarding STH 83 and CTH P

Gundrum arrived at 8:37 a.m.

Chair's Executive Committee Report

Swan reviewed the items discussed at the July 28, 2008, Executive Committee meeting.

- Update on Information Technology Projects
- Status Update of Open Information Technology Capital Projects
- Status Update of Capital Projects – 2007 Year End Report
- Chairman's and Staff Report on the National Association of Counties Convention held July 12 – 15 in Kansas City, Missouri

Future Agenda Items

- Future meeting to be held at the Waukesha County Exposition Center

Future Meeting Dates:

- September 11, 2008: Capital Projects

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 163-O-027: Establishment Of Speed Zone–CTH B

Bolte stated that the section of CTH B (from Pabst Road easterly to Mill Road) is not a heavily traveled road. It is narrow and curvy for the most part. Citizens in the area requested lowering of the 35 mph speed limit to 25 mph. Bolte stated that a similar section of CTH B, west of STH 67 along Silver Lake, is currently posted at 25 mph.

MOTION: Wolff moved, second by Jaske, to approve Ordinance 163-O-027.
Motion carried 6-0.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 163-O-028: Laying Out, Relocation And Improvement Of County Trunk Highway Y, Waukesha County Project, Project I.D. 08-2779(15), Kelsey Road Intersection, City Of Muskego, Waukesha County

Braun explained this is a safety improvement project; there have been two traffic fatalities in this area within the last couple of years. The right of way acquisitions are required for the construction of the roundabout.

MOTION: Gundrum moved, second by Pledl, to approve Ordinance 163-O-028. Motion carried 6-0.

Update of Kelsey/Racine Intersection Roundabout

Bolte stated there was a second public information meeting held about three weeks ago, where the final plans for the roundabout were shown. He explained that the construction will be delayed until the spring because there is not enough time to complete it by November of this year. The right-of-ways have not been purchased yet, and the utilities need to be relocated. Presently, there is not a good detour route. The Moorland Road project will be completed by the time this project begins.

Swan asked about the reaction at the public meeting. Braun stated it was about 60-40 in favor of the project. After further explanation about the project, more people were accepting of it.

Braun stated she would copy an informational DVD about roundabouts for the Committee members to view.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 163-O-029: Transfer Ownership Of Detention Ponds County Trunk Highway J, Waukesha County Project, Project I.D. 2748-01-71, City Of Pewaukee, Waukesha County

Swan asked why all of the additional pages are included in this ordinance when this project has already been completed. Braun explained that it is a history lesson to provide a better understanding of what is happening now. There have been about four years of negotiations with the DOT and many of the County Board members were not here when this project started.

Mader gave a brief overview of the background of this ordinance. He stated that this is a transfer of a stormwater management pond that has almost no value, consequently no fiscal note. Mader explained that because of the legalities and the past agreements, Corporation Counsel preferred that this information be included in this ordinance.

Braun explained that the County had rebuilt CTH J, including the stormwater retention area, before it became a State highway (STH 164). When the State took over CTH J by a jurisdictional transfer, the road went to the State but the retention pond did not. The State has the responsibility for maintenance of the retention pond as well as the highway.

MOTION: Wolff moved, second by Jaske, to approve Ordinance 163-O-029.

Swan stated he has observed the retention pond is fenced, and questioned what determines whether a pond is fenced. Braun stated the DOT always fences ponds. Braun added that the County has been fencing the ponds for safety reasons.

Motion carried 6-0.

Discussion of Citizen Concerns of Safety and Speed Limit on Beloit Road in New Berlin and the Possibility of a Speed Study

Bolte explained that his department interviewed candidates to fill the vacant traffic engineer position and an offer was made. The new traffic engineer will work on the backlog of the traffic studies, including this one. Swan asked if there was anyone cross-trained to do the speed studies in the interim. Bolte stated there is not.

Gundrum inquired how much County labor time would be required to perform the study. Bolte stated that the study itself takes about a week. It involves setting speed counters, picking them up, processing the data, analyzing the results, and making a recommendation. Bolte added that the actual labor hours probably amount to about two hours. The only problem that may be encountered is that the counters cannot be used in the winter months; the study must be done this fall or else wait until spring.

Wolff left at 9:14 a.m.

Swan thanked Bolte for coming to address these issues. Swan asked Bolte if the Committee must request any updated information, such as the speed study results. Bolte explained that once the study is completed and a recommendation is developed, the Committee would receive either a copy of a letter denying the speed limit change or an ordinance implementing the change in speed limit.

Update and Tour of UW-Waukesha Campus (RE: Recent Projects – Labs, Lecture Halls and Gymnasium)

Schmitt, Robis and Riemer accompanied the Committee member on a tour of the UW-Campus to explain the most recent remodels and additions to the buildings.

Gundrum left at approximately 10:00 a.m.

MOTION: Jaske moved, second by Pledl, to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m. Motion carried: 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Wolff
Secretary